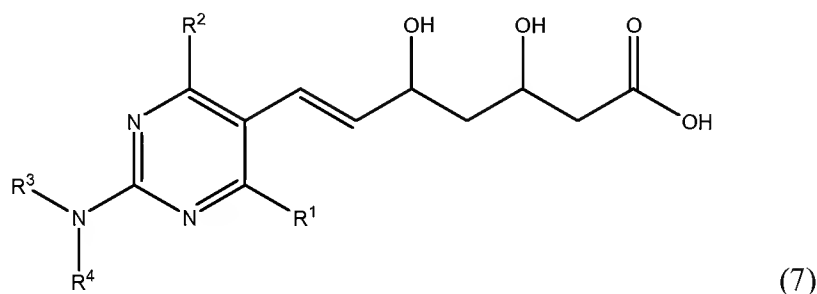


## IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace all previous versions, and listings, of the claims with the following, where any added text is indicated by underlining and any deleted text is indicated by strikethrough or double square bracketing.

1. **(currently amended)** A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (7):



wherein

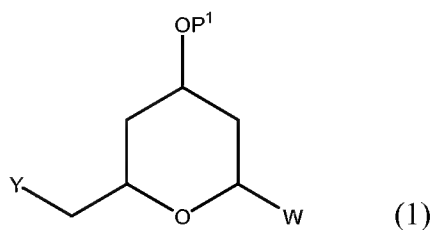
R<sup>1</sup> represents an alkyl group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents an aryl group;

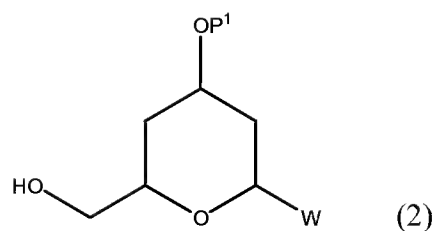
R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, a protecting group or an alkyl group; and

R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen, a protecting group or a SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup> group where R<sup>5</sup> is an alkyl group, comprising the steps of:

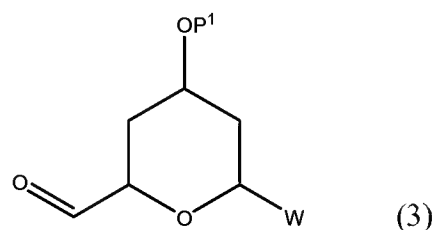
- a) hydroxylating a compound of formula (1):



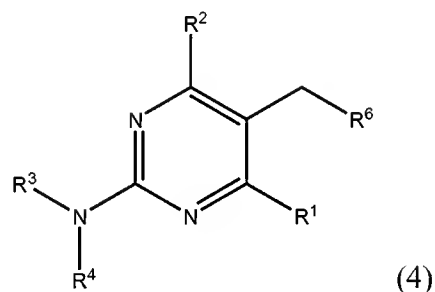
wherein Y represents a halo group; P<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group, and W represents  $[[=O]] \equiv \text{O}$  or -OP<sup>2</sup>, in which P<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group, to give a compound of formula (2):



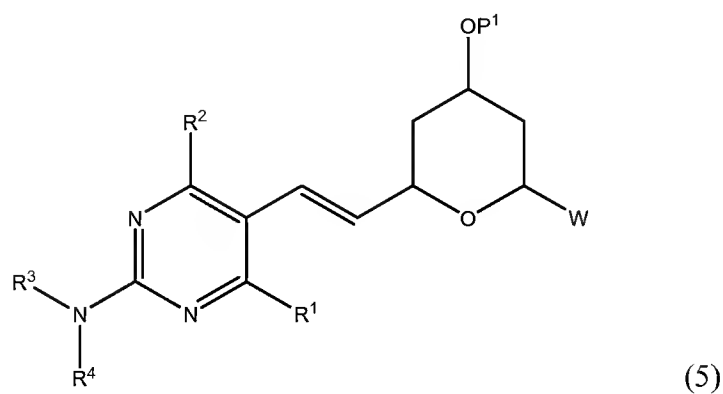
b) oxidising the compound of formula (2) to give a compound of formula (3):



c) coupling the compound of formula (3) with a compound of formula (4):

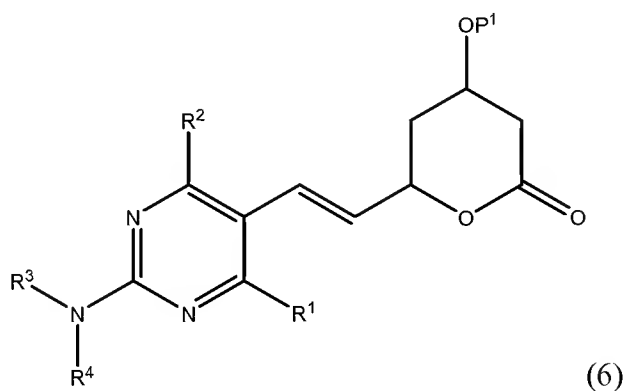


wherein  $R^3$  represents a protecting group or an alkyl group;  $R^4$  represents a protecting group or a  $SO_2R^5$  group where  $R^5$  is an alkyl group; and  $R^6$  represents  $(PR^7R^8)^+X^-$  or  $P(=O)R^7R^8$  in which  $X$  is an anion and  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  each independently is an alkyl, aryl, alkoxy or aryloxy group, to give a compound of formula (5):



wherein  $R^3$  represents a protecting group or an alkyl group; and  $R^4$  represents a protecting group or a  $SO_2R^5$  group where  $R^5$  is an alkyl group,

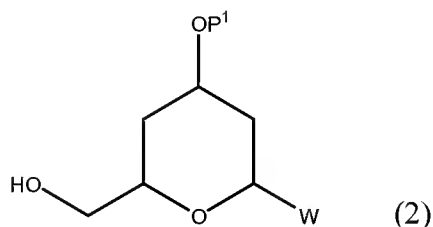
d) when W represents  $-OP^2$ , removing any  $P^2$  protecting group and oxidising the compound of formula (5) to give a compound of formula (6):



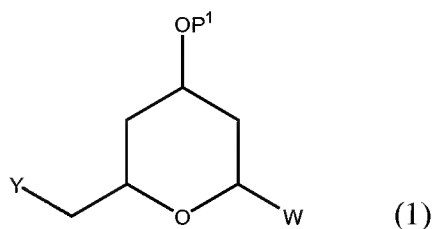
and

e) subjecting the compound of formula (5) when W represents  $[[=O]] \equiv O$ , or compound of formula (6) to ring-opening, removal of any  $P^1$  protecting groups, and optionally removing any additional protecting groups to give a compound of formula (7).

2. **(currently amended)** A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (2):

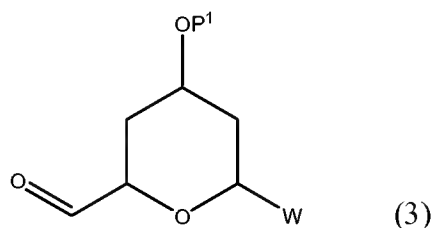


comprising the step of hydroxylating a compound of formula (1):

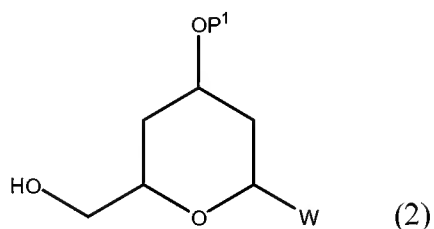


wherein Y represents a halo group; P<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group, and W represents  $[[=O]] \equiv O$  or -OP<sup>2</sup>, in which P<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group.

3. **(currently amended)** A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (3):

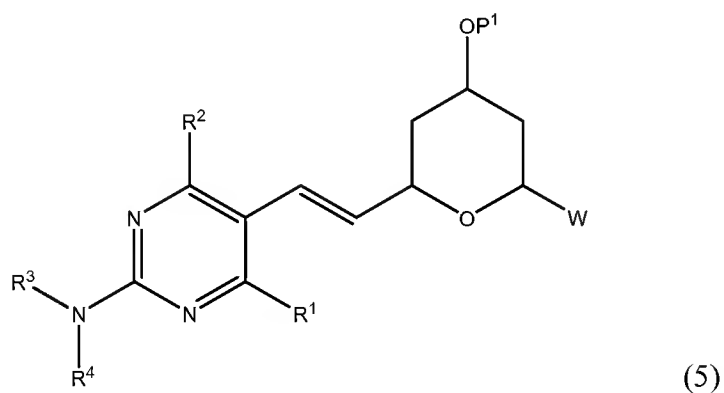


comprising the step of oxidising a compound of formula (2):

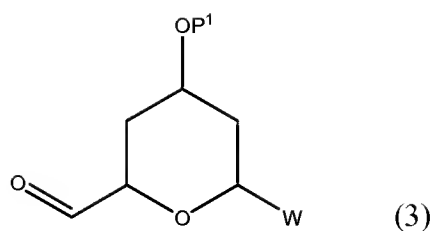


wherein P<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group, and W represents  $[[=O]] \equiv O$  or -OP<sup>2</sup>, in which P<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group.

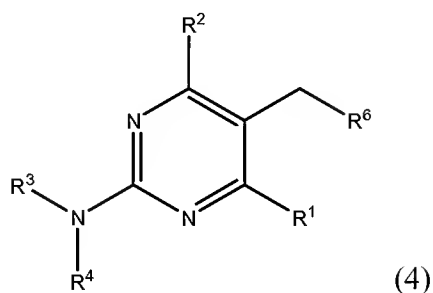
4. **(currently amended)** A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (5):



comprising the step of coupling a compound of formula (3):



with a compound of formula (4):



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> represents an alkyl group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents an aryl group;

R<sup>3</sup> represents a protecting group or an alkyl group;

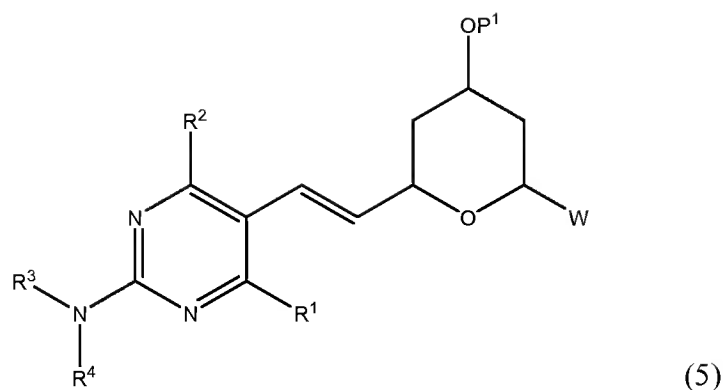
R<sup>4</sup> represents a protecting group or a SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup> group where R<sup>5</sup> is an alkyl group; and

R<sup>6</sup> represents (PR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup>)<sup>+</sup>X<sup>-</sup> or P(=O)R<sup>7</sup>R<sup>8</sup> in which X is an anion and R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> each independently is an alkyl, aryl, alkoxy or aryloxy group,

P<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group; and

W represents  $[[=O]] \equiv \underline{O}$  or -OP<sup>2</sup>, in which P<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group.

5. **(currently amended)** A compound of formula (5):



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> represents an alkyl group;

R<sup>2</sup> represents an aryl group;

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, a protecting group or an alkyl group;

R<sup>4</sup> represents a protecting group or a SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup> group where R<sup>5</sup> is an alkyl group;

P<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group; and

W represents  $[[=O]] \equiv \underline{O}$  or -OP<sup>2</sup>, in which P<sup>2</sup> represents hydrogen or a protecting group.

6. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents independently for each occurrence a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group.
7. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents independently for each occurrence an isopropyl group.
8. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents independently for each occurrence a 4-fluorophenyl group.
9. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents independently for each occurrence a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group.
10. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>3</sup> represents independently for each occurrence a methyl group.
11. **(previously presented)** The process of claim 1 or 2, wherein Y represents independently for each occurrence Cl or Br.

12. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>5</sup> represents independently for each occurrence a C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl group.
13. **(previously presented)** The process or compound of claim 1, 4, or 5, wherein R<sup>5</sup> represents independently for each occurrence a methyl group.
14. **(previously presented)** The process of claim 1 or 4, wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> represent Ph.